

## **Tom Grant - August 13, 2017**



Join the City of Lake Oswego Parks & Recreation Department for Tom Grant live at the Moonlight & Music Concerts. The concert takes place on Sunday, August 13, from 6-7:30pm at Millennium Plaza Park. All concerts are free and family friendly.

TOM GRANT, master instrumentalist, talented singer and natural entertainer nimbly walks the line between jazz tradition and modern pop. This soft-spoken Oregon native's inspired songwriting produces propulsive R&B grooves, infectious melodic hooks, and stylish ballads with equal ease. He plays jazz piano with the harmonic sophistication and deep sense of swing that only comes from more than four decades on the bandstand. As one of the Pacific Northwest's most renowned musical artists, Tom Grant's career achievements reflect his unique ability to embrace the full spectrum of contemporary music.

Born to show business parents, Tom was at home with many musical instruments, but always returned to the piano. At a tender age, he was taught to play piano and drums by his vaudevillian/tap dancer father. Later, he learned about music styles listening to music at his father's record store in Portland, Oregon. His brother, himself an accomplished jazz pianist, introduced him to the many different facets of the jazz life.

After graduating from the University of Oregon and a short stint as a high school teacher, Tom answered his musical calling. Native American saxophonist Jim Pepper took Tom to New York in 1970 to do a recording project that included the chant classic *Witchi Tai-to*. That album (Pepper's *Pow-Wow*, Embryo Records) featured Tom with jazz stars such as Bill Cobham (drums) and Larry Coryell (guitar).

During the 70's, Tom played with jazz luminaries like trumpeter Woody Shaw, saxophonists Joe Henderson and Charles Lloyd. His most life-changing gig was with drummer Tony Williams who himself transformed the 1960's Miles Davis Band both musically and commercially into a worldwide jazz phenomenon. With Tony and bassist Patrick O'Hearn, Tom recorded and toured worldwide from 1978-1980.

In the 80's and 90's Tom was considered by many to be the father of the Smooth Jazz sound, recording albums on major labels including Verve, Shanachie and Windham Hill. Several of these shot to number one on the Smooth Jazz charts.

Tom has appeared on the Jay Leno show and was featured in many of the national music mags as well as in a

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CNN news spot. He's also enjoyed large followings in Indonesia and Japan.

In his hometown of Portland, Tom works tirelessly for a number of charities. Over the past thirty years, his music has been a staple of homegrown giving for several non-profits. He was one of the original pianists of the Ten Grands concerts in Portland and Seattle, an annual event supporting music education. Tom also organizes an annual concert for a non-profit that feeds disadvantaged people.

Grant writes and records new music on his own label, Nu-Wrinkle Records. His songs can be heard on popular TV series, both network and cable, and is still releasing new music on his own label called Nu-Wrinkle Records.

Tom Grant is proud to be a YAMAHA Artist.

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